

**NEBRASKA STATE QUARTER DESIGN COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 1525**  
**LINCOLN, NE**  
**Friday, April 2, 2004 - 1:30 pm**

**PRESENT:** Secretary of State John Gale, Tom Bassett, Virgil Marshall, Dr. Michael Schuyler, Gordon Howard, Jodi Rave, Norman Geske & staff member Sharon Hambek

**ABSENT:** Roger Bruhn

**Open Meeting Notice:** Secretary Gale called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm noting there were enough members present to be sufficient for a quorum. He also stated notice of this meeting had been posted on the State's internet public meeting calendar in compliance with the Public Meeting Law. The agenda was posted on the Secretary of State web site and has been available in the office of the Secretary of State for inspection during regular business hours.

**Welcome:** Secretary Gale welcomed Jodi Rave home from her studies at Harvard University to attend this meeting.

**Minutes & Agenda:** A motion was made by Mr. Bassett, seconded by Mr. Marshall to accept the minutes as mailed. Mr. Howard noted he had been in attendance at the October, 2003 meeting. Both Mr. Bassett and Mr. Marshall agreed to amend their motion to accept the minutes with the correction of Mr. Howard being present. Motion carried.

**Video Review:** The 12 minute video that had been produced of the "Kick Off Event" held in Lincoln in September, 2003 was reviewed by the Committee. Ms. Hambek gave a report indicating letters had been sent to several groups asking for members to volunteer to promote the Quarter Design program in their area after receiving a copy of this tape and other printed material. It was reported there had been several individuals who had contacted the office and was willing to take this project on.

**Homestead Monument Guests:** Laureen Riedesel, President of Friends of Homestead; Mark Englar, Superintendent of Homestead National Monument and Todd Arrington, Historian for the Homestead Monument gave a report on the history of the Homestead Act and the impact it had on the settlement of Nebraska. They provided the Committee with some design ideas featuring homestead images.

**Statehood Birthday Parties:** Secretary Gale reported that during the nine Statehood Birthday Parties across the state he had promoted the Quarter Design Program to fourth graders. Since that time a large number of designs have been submitted by students.

**UNL Journalism Classes:** Ms. Hambek reported that Mr. Bassett and she had been present when students made their presentations on the Quarter Program promotion in early December. Some of their ideas, such as the poster design that was sent out

with the reminder letter to fourth grade teachers, was a design that had come from one of the groups. Secretary Gale and Mr. Bassett met with the Campaign Class in January providing them with some information about the program. They will take the Quarter Program on as their semester project, coming up with ideas for the Launch Event and marketing of this event. These presentations will be made the latter part of April. Plans are for the Administrative Subcommittee members and Sharon Hambek to attend these presentations.

Secretary Gale has suggested to Ms. Signal, the teacher of these classes, that he would like to invite the students to the capitol for a tour, especially the Wherry Room which is normally not open to the public. Plans would also include the possibility of lunch at the Governor's Mansion if available. This would be a type of thank you to the students. If these plans develop, the Committee will be invited.

**Quarter Sets:** A couple members of the Committee had proof sets of some of the commemorative quarters that have already been released for everyone to see. Also some bicentennial medallions with icons that may be part of the Nebraska quarter design were reviewed to enable everyone to know how certain icons would look on a coin.

**Recess:** The meeting was recessed at 2:50 PM. It was reconvened at 3:00 PM with a quorum present.

**Award:** Secretary Gale congratulated Norm Geske on recently receiving the distinguished Pioneer Award from the NEBRASKAland Foundation at their annual dinner held in the Capitol.

**Categorization Subcommittee:** Mr. Marshall reported, because of bad weather, he was the only one from the subcommittee that had been able to come in and review the additional designs and get them categorized. He stated it was a "fun" exercise and encouraged all committee members to contact Ms. Hambek and make arrangements to come in and review the designs.

It was decided a press release should be sent out reminding everyone the deadline for submitting an entry is near. Staff in the Secretary of State's office will take care of this.

**Public Comment Subcommittee:** A list of publications, radio stations, etc. that had promoted the Quarter Design Program in some manner was reviewed.

**Administrative Subcommittee:** All of the groups in the UNL Journalism class had found from their research that individuals, especially students, really wanted to get some type of "pat on the back" for submitting a design. Because of this recommendation, the subcommittee had decided there should be a Certificate of Achievement issued. This statement was included in the reminder letter sent to fourth grade teachers. However, it was felt the full committee should decide on the details of how this would be accomplished.

Following considerable discussion, it was decided that after the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, certificates should be awarded by categories. Any category that had at least 100 entries would stand alone and those with fewer entries would be grouped together. Of those groups, then probably 5% of the best entries would receive a certificate. It was noted that negative comments should not be included in these groups.

Discussion was held regarding sending an invitation to other organizations that may want to present information regarding their icon to the Committee. Members of the Committee felt they had gained considerable historical information that would be very useful in submitting a narrative if a homestead icon was used. A motion was made by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Bassett to invite a limited number of known and established organizations with a rich historical history to make a presentation at one of the summer meetings. Motion carried. It was noted there would need to be a limited number at each meeting and the time allowed would need to be limited.

**Graphic Designer:** Discussion was held whether it would be beneficial for the Committee to have someone that could come to the meetings this summer and “sketch” designs the Committee would like to see. Secretary Gale informed the Committee he had inquired if there was anyone in his office with these skills and discovered there is a staff member in Records Management that has some training. Secretary Gale was asked to have this individual attend the next meeting if possible. One thing the Committee wanted to be sure this individual knew was that he would NOT be creating a design; he would only be following the directions given him by the Committee.

**Other Business:** Mr. Bassett reported he had spoken to groups in Geneva and Seward about the Quarter Program as part of the Speakers Bureau Program. Some 15 or so videos have been sent to volunteers to use for programs.

**Meeting Dates:** It was decided the next meeting would be held on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. The following meeting was scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>, again to be held from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. The members will be notified of the exact location in the Capitol after that is determined

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Dr. Schuyler, seconded by Tom to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hambek  
Event Coordinator